

# Requesting UNOLS Membership

Schmidt Ocean Institute

# UNOLS Membership Criteria

## Charter- Oct 15, 2010

### 3. MEMBERSHIP

- a.) **Eligibility:** Membership in UNOLS is open to those institutions that use, or operate and use, sea-going facilities and maintain an academic program in marine science. It is intended that UNOLS institutions make substantial contributions to the national oceanographic program. Both individual institutions and consortia of such institutions may be members of UNOLS for purposes of attending UNOLS meetings, receiving UNOLS information, and other non-voting UNOLS activities. However, on any matter requiring a vote of the UNOLS membership either the member consortium may cast a ballot or individual member institution's) within the consortium may cast ballot's), but not both. In the event that any consortium and one or more of its constituent institutions disagree as to the voting option to be exercised in any matter, only the ballots of individual institutions within that consortium shall be accepted on that matter. The choice of individual or consortium voting may be exercised independently on each voting matter and by each consortium and its constituent institutions. In the remainder of this charter the word "institution" means "individual member institution or member consortium" except where otherwise noted. Each UNOLS institution shall designate a representative with authority to speak and act for the institution in UNOLS matters. UNOLS representatives may authorize alternates. Addition of members shall be by application to and majority action by the existing membership. Membership may be voluntarily terminated by any member on written notice to the Chair. In extraordinary instances, an institution's membership may be involuntarily terminated by two-thirds vote of the UNOLS membership. The UNOLS Council periodically shall review the list of UNOLS institutions. It shall recommend to UNOLS additions, status changes, and terminations. Changes shall be considered at a regular UNOLS meeting and require a vote of the UNOLS membership present or by proxy if absent.

# Membership Criteria

**b.) Operator Institutions:** All institutions, having satisfied the criteria for membership and having been selected, are designated as UNOLS institutions. Those UNOLS institutions that operate UNOLS vessels or National Oceanographic Facilities (Annex II) are, in addition, designated as operator institutions. UNOLS vessels and National Oceanographic Facilities are designated by the UNOLS Council. UNOLS vessels are those United States research vessels generally operated in support of national oceanographic research programs, by academic or other non-profit institutions and are significantly funded by the federal government. They are operated in accordance with UNOLS safety standards, subject to regular, recognized ship inspection programs, scheduled by established UNOLS procedures and meet cruise reporting, cruise assessment, cost accounting and performance standards according to UNOLS uniform practices. UNOLS vessels and National Oceanographic Facilities are regularly available to users outside of the operator institution provided that funding is available from the sponsor of the research or from the user. The list of designated UNOLS vessels shall be reviewed regularly for additions or deletions by the UNOLS Council giving consideration to the above criteria and taking into account the objectives of UNOLS in section 2.

If the Council denies an application for UNOLS vessel or National Oceanographic Facility designation, the applicant shall be notified. They shall have the opportunity to reapply in accordance with the procedures described in the "Guidelines for Requesting/Becoming a UNOLS Vessel."

Schmidt Ocean Institute  
[www.schmidtocean.org](http://www.schmidtocean.org)

*“The mission of the Schmidt Ocean Institute is to advance ocean exploration, discovery, and knowledge, and be a catalyst for sharing the information about the oceans. It is our position that the free sharing of information about the oceans is the key benefit in itself. We will evaluate the broad impact directly by how widely and frequently the shared information is requested and referred to.”*

## Message from Schmidt 1/6/2011

We would like to offer that we meet the eligibility requirements as listed in the UNOLS charter. We understand that you have a concern that we may not meet the “maintain an academic program in marine science” requirement listed for eligibility. With respect to that we would like to provide the following details for your consideration. Though we are a relatively new start up Institute, we have been supporting Post Docs and Fellows since 2009. The list of these persons can be found on our website at

<http://www.schmidtocean.org/team.html>

Details of their research and academic experience can be seen by selecting the appropriate “Post Doc” or “Research Fellow” link under each persons name.

# Schmidt

The last few years the Institute has put our efforts primarily towards refitting our two vessels, the Lone Ranger and Falkor. In addition, we are working to establish collaborations between ourselves and many other established UNOLS Institutions such as Scripps, WHOI, MBARI, OSU, and UW. The Lone Ranger has been successfully refit in Germany and we are currently mobilizing for our first science cruise to start out of the Canary Islands on the 10th of this month. We will be conducting two science cruises, the first from the Canary Islands through the Atlantic Gyre in order to conduct an Investigation of Marine Pollutants. The second cruise will comprise of four missions, starting from Bermuda and working in the Sargasso Sea and to study; the biodiversity of Sargasso, Pelagic Sargassum communities as indicators of surface ocean warming and increasing acidity, the Abyssal scavenger ecology in the western Atlantic, and deploying a Deep Sea Observatory. We anticipate the first research papers from the cruises to be published in the coming months.

## Msg from Schmidt- 2/22/11

Here is a link to the current cruise log of our Research Vessel Lone Ranger, as is published on the MBARI website (our website is still in development):

<http://www.mbari.org/expeditions/Sargasso/logbook.htm>

The Lone Ranger has successfully completed its maiden science cruise, is currently on her second one, and the Falkor is scheduled to be delivered later this year.

Thank you again for the consideration of our becoming a UNOLS “non operating” member, and please let me know if I might be able to provide further information at this time.